Increasing use of Siddha System of Medicine

3175. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of increasing use of Siddha System of Medicine ;

(b) whether funds allotted for Siddha System of Medicine are not fully utilized and are transferred to Allopathy System; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Spread of Rabies disease in J & K

†3176. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people are getting affected with rabies disease and are dying in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether street dogs are being poisoned to control this disease;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the measures being taken to control this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) & (b) No, Sir. As per data received from Central Bureau of Health Intelligence, no deaths/cases due to rabies have been reported from Jammu and Kashmir during 2000 and 2001.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) There is adequate production of Anti-Rabies Vaccine in the country and the vaccine is being used in all the States for free administration to patients of dog bite in all Government hospitals.

Convention of tobacco control in Geneva

3177. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India participated in the world first international treaty on health *i.e.* Convention on Tobacco Control recently concluded in Geneva;

(b) if so, the main points agreed to at the meet; and

(c) what sincere steps are being taken to get implemented the anti-smoking part especially with regard to banning of selling cigarettes to minors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) and (b) India participated in the sixth meeting of the International Negotiating Body (INB) on the Framework Convention of Tobacco Control (FCTC) held at Geneva during 17—28 February, 2003. The said meeting agreed on various issues which, *inter-alia*, include measures relating to the reduction of demand for tobacco, measures relating to the reduction of the supply of tobacco, protection of the environment and health of persons.

(c) "The Cigarettes and other Tobacco products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Bill, 2003" was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 7th March, 2001. The Bill alongwith certain amendments was considered and passed by the House on 9th April, 2003 and will now be taken up for consideration in the Lok Sabha. It envisages discouraging the use of tobacco and tobacco products by banning advertisement of tobacco products, prohibition of smoking in public places and ban on sale of tobacco products to minors in addition to other control measures.